

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 DRC-01 /105 W

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INFO USMISSION NATO

CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0308

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION ISSUE: PRIMIN ANSWERS PARLIAMENTARY
QUESTIONS

REF: REYKJAVIK 0298

1. IN COURSE OF ALTHING DEBATES FEB 19, PRIME MINISTER OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN WAS ASKED WHETHER PA MINISTER MAGNUS KIARTANSSON HAD BEEN SPEAKING FOR GOI AT NORDIC COUNCIL MEETING IN STOCKHOLM WHEN HE ATTACKED NORWEGIANS FOR INTERFERING IN ICELANDIC INTERNAL AFFAIRS. PRIMIN REPLIED IT WAS SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR THAT SPEECH HAD NOT BEEN MADE ON BEHALF OF GOI EVEN THOUGH KIARTANSSON HAD AT ONE POINT MENTIONED GOVERNMENT VIEWS. THOUGHTS HE HAD EXPRESSED HAD CLEARLY BEEN HIS OWN.

2. ANOTHER QUESTION DIRECTED TO PRIMIN CONCERNED OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN CABINET PARTIES ON DEFENSE ISSUES AND WHEN FURTHER TALKS WITH USG WOULD TAKE PLACE. PRIMIN REPLIED HE DID NOT THINK THERE WERE SERIOUS DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PARTIES AND HE HOPED TALKS COULD BE "STARTED AGAIN SOON." HE SAID HE REFUSED TO GET EXCITED ABOUT SPECULATION IN OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS ON
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SERIOUS DIFFERENCES WITHIN GOVERNMENT ON THIS ISSUE.

3. COMMENT: WHETHER OR NOT PRIMIN PLAYS THEM DOWN, SERIOUS
DIFFERENCES CERTAINLY DO EXIST. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE BEEN
TEMPORARILY SUBORDINATED TO MORE PRESSING ECONOMIC CONCERNS.
MARTIN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 20 FEB 1974
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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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